as to make it uniform with the measures obtaining in other parts of the State.

Reply.—Orders have been finally passed by Government on this subject after hearing Mr. E. Rama Iyer on behalf of the ryots and there is no reason to reconsider the question now.

373. Irregularities of settlement operations and the heavy assessment fixed on lands in Shencottah.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer represented that settlemen operations in the Shencottah taluk were not conducted in conformity with the provisions of the Royal Proclamation of 1886 and that heavy assessment was fixed on both wet and garden lands. He requested that, as sufficient time was not given to the ryots to submit their grievances, individual cases of hardship might be even now taken up and relief given.

Reply.—The settlement of this taluk was finished in 1081, the aggregate increase in revenue being only Rs. 7,000. Nothing can be done, therefore, in the direction prayed for.

374. Fixing of dry assessment on wet lands which are fit only for dry cultivation.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer stated that most of the wet lands of the taluk were fit only for dry cultivation and yet, in the recent settlement, they were assessed as wet lands. He urged that only dry assessment should be levied on such lands and that lands from which only a single crop could be realised should not be treated as double crop lands.

Reply.—Some cases of this kind which came up before me recently have been received and disposed of. Any further cases calling for interference will be considered, when received.

375. Abolition of house-tax.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer submitted that the houses on which *manavari* or house-tax was levied were very few in Shencottah and the amount realised was small. He requested that the tax might therefore be abolished.

Reply.—No interference is called for. Tax is being collected on the lands on which houses are built and it cannot be dispensed with

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on the ground that such cases are few or that the amount is small.

376. Abolition of different rates in the demand-notice fees and dispensing with them if the amount is paid before attachment.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer represented that demand notice fees were now calculated according to the distance to the residence of the defaulter from the taluk office and this resulted in different rates of fees being realised from the ryots. He suggested that this practice might be abolished and the rules under the Revenue Recovery Regulation might be so modified as to admit of the same rate of fees being recovered from all persons alike. He further requested that no fees might be demanded from the ryots in case they paid the amount specified in the notice before the date of attachment.

Reply.—The rates of fees now levied are, in the opinion of Government, moderate and cannot be reduced. There is no reason to modify the rules that have been passed under the Regulation, nor can any exemption be made in the case of defaulters who pay up their dues before the date of attachment.

377. Grant of permission to cultivate tobacco in Shencottah.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer requested that permission might be given for the cultivation of tobacco in Shencottah, at least in a few individual cases.

Reply.—This representation has been already answered. *Vide* subject No. 145.

378. Appointment of a Settlement officer and staff for a short period in Shencottah.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer suggested that a settlement supervisor with the necessary classifiers and other subordinates might be appointed for a short period to rectify the errors in the recent settlement of the taluk and thus minimise the number of civil suits likely to arise therefrom.

Reply.—This taluk has been already settled. Nothing can be done in the manner suggested.

379. Establishment of a separate Munsiff's Court at Shencottah.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer requested that a separate munsiff's court might be opened in Shencottah instead of combining judicial

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